## National Drug Take Back Day Initiative



On Saturday, April 28, 2012, Virginia will participate in the fourth National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day. Sponsored by the Drug Enforcement Administration, this collaborative effort between state and local law enforcement agencies provides residents with an opportunity to dispose of potentially dangerous controlled substances from their medicine cabinets in an environmentally safe manner. Collection activities will take place from 10:00 a.m. through 2:00 p.m. at sites designated by police throughout Virginia. The last National Prescription Drug Take-Back event took in more than 377,086 pounds (188.5 tons) of unwanted or expired medications nationwide for safe and proper disposal.

For more information about this initiative and to determine the closest collection site to your location please go to:

National Take Back Initiative Collection Site Search: www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug disposal/takeback/

Prescription drug abuse is the fastest growing drug problem in the United States. According to the most recent Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) survey, prescription medications are the second-most abused category of drugs, following marijuana. The 2010 National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH) found that medicine cabinets are where youth between the ages of 12 and 18 most often obtain prescription drugs for non-medical or recreational use. There is anecdotal evidence that stolen prescription medications most often come from home medicine cabinets of family, relatives or friends. Therefore, it is important for prescription drugs to be disposed of properly to help reduce the risk of prescription drug diversion and abuse.



VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH PROFESSIONS

Perimeter Center 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 300 Henrico, VA 23233

> Phone: 804-367-4400 Fax: 804-527-4475